

LEES  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1962



ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

COUNCIL OFFICES,  
CROSS STREET, LEES,  
NR. OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

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U R B A N   D I S T R I C T   O F   L E E S.

Chairman of the Council 1962-1963.

Councillor F. Bennett. J.P.

Health Committee 1962 - 1963

Councillor H. K. Dyson, Chairman.

Councillor J. Gartside.

Councillor S. Pearson.

Councillor F. Ward.

Councillor H. Travis J.P.

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Councillor H. Slack. J.P.

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Councillor J. G. Gartside.

Councillor L. Vaughan

Councillor O. Bevan.

Councillor F. Bennett. J.P.

Councillor F. Woodhead.

Councillor T. Needham.

Councillor J. Rhodes.

Medical Officer of Health

G. R. BRACKENRIDGE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

"Tylon", Middleton Road, Chadderton.

Tel: MAIN 6251/2.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

E. J. H. FOSTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector.

J. W. RUSTIDGE, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Council Offices, Lees.

Tel: MAIN 1102.

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Council Offices,  
Cross Street,  
Lees,  
Nr. Oldham.

August, 1963.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of the  
Urban District Council of Lees.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the Health of the district for the year 1962.

The details of the year's activities are tabulated in the body of the report in a form broadly similar to that adopted last year.

During 1962 there was, for the first time for many years, an increase in the population of the district. There was also a greater number of births than in 1961, 51 compared with 42, giving an adjusted birth-rate of 15.6 compared with a rate of 12.4 for 1961. The national birth rate for 1962 was 18.0.

Outbreaks of smallpox in some areas of the country early in year, precipitated a tremendous demand for vaccination in Lees, as in all surrounding districts. This demand was not, in general, provoked by medical advice and the public attitude at that time contrasts rather sharply with the present reluctance of young adults to seek vital protection against poliomyelitis.

It is pleasing to report that services for mothers and children have been provided at the High Street Clinic since January, 1962. The premises were acquired by the district council on its own initiative, although the council are not directly responsible for clinic services. It is hoped to provide dental services at this clinic in the latter part of 1963.

In conclusion I must thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their encouragement and support throughout the year, and I wish to acknowledge the valuable assistance given by the Clerk of the Council and the Staff of the Health Department.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. R. Brackenridge.

Medical Officer of Health.



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## GENERAL STATISTICS.

(1)

Area in acres ..... 288

### Population.

Census 1961 ..... 3,730  
Estimated Mid 1962 ..... 3,750

### Number of Inhabited Houses.

Estimated 1962 ..... 1,460  
Rateable Value ..... £47,985  
Sum represented by a Penny rate ..... £141  
General rate per pound 1962/63 ..... 23s. 6d.

(2)

### General Characteristics and Social Condition of the District.

The district lies immediately east of Oldham, being between the boundary of this County Borough and the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Originally, the village was developed around the cotton mills, which were formally and principally the main source of local employment. However there are only two mills in active production in the district, whilst the remainder are converted to other industries, or used as storage premises. One mill has been demolished whilst the re-equipping of one of the largest Mills in the district is being considered.



VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births (Total) ..... 51

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Legitimate	19	28
Illegitimate	2	2

Live Birth Rate per 1000 population:-

Crude Rate .....	13.6
Adjusted Rate .....	15.6
(Comparability Factor 1.15).	

Illegitimate Live Births per cent total of live births .....	7.8
Stillbirths .....	Nil
Stillbirth Rate per 1000 live and still births .....	Nil
Total live and stillbirths .....	51
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year) .....	1

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Legitimate	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-

Infant Mortality Rates.

Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births.	19.6
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births ...	21.3
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births ...	Nil
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)...	Nil
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)...	Nil
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still births) .....	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate (including abortion) .....	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 live and still births .....	Nil
Total deaths (all ages) .....	66
Death rate per 1000 population:-	
Crude Rate .....	17.6
Adjusted Rate .....	16.0
(Comparability Factor .91).	

Principal Causes of Death:-

Diseases of Heart & Circulation .....	21
Cancer (all sites) .....	13
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System ..	10

Comparability Factor.

This factor takes into account the age and sex structure of the local population as compared with that of England and Wales as a whole, and makes it possible to compare local rates with national rates.



COMPARATIVE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS.

		1962.	1961.	1960.	1957.	1952.
		3,750	3,730	3,890	4,020	4,184
Population						
Live Births	No.	51	42	44	43	55
	Adj. Rate	15.6	12.4	12.4	11.8	13.4
Still Births	No.	0	0	1	3	3
	Rate	Nil	Nil	22.2	65	54.5
Total (Live and Still Births)	No.	51	42	45	46	58
Total Infant Deaths	No.	1	0	2	1	3
	Rate	19.6	Nil	45.5	23	55
Maternal Deaths	No.	0	0	0	1	0
	Rate	Nil	Nil	Nil	22	Nil
Total Deaths	No.	66	67	59	60	53
	Adj. Rate	16	18.3	15.8	15.5	11.5



CAUSES OF DEATH.

	M.	F.	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958
			Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
Syphilitic disease.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Malignant neoplasms -							
Stomach	-	1	1	3	1	1	2
Lung & Bronchus	3	-	3	1	-	1	-
Breast	-	1	1	-	2	-	1
Uterus	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Other Sites.	6	2	8	3	4	7	4
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	1	1	2	-	-	-	-
Diabetes.	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	5	5	10	7	11	14	6
Coronary disease, angina.	5	4	9	15	9	9	6
Hypertension with heart disease	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Other heart disease.	2	7	9	12	9	9	12
Other circulatory disease.	3	-	3	7	7	6	7
Influenza.	1	-	1	2	-	-	1
Pneumonia.	1	2	3	2	3	2	1
Bronchitis.	6	1	7	8	5	8	3
Other disease of respiratory system.	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis.	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate.	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Pregnancy.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital malformations.	-	-	-	-	1	2	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	1	2	3	2	1	1	4
Motor vehicle accidents.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
All other accidents.	1	2	3	1	-	2	1
Suicide.	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
 Totals .....	38	28	66	67	59	65	53

DEATHS - BY AGE GROUPS.

YEARS	M.	F.	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958
			Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
Under 1	-	1	1	-	2	1	2
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
5 - 14	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	1	-	1	2	-	2	1
45 - 64	10	4	14	18	19	19	17
65 - 74	16	6	22	18	13	23	13
Over 75	10	17	27	29	25	19	20
 Totals .....	38	28	66	67	59	65	53



INFANT MORTALITY - 1962.

Cause of Death	Under 1 day.	1 to 6 days.	1 to 4 weeks	1 to 3 months.	3 to 12 months	Total.
Prematurity	-	-	-	4	-	1
Total ...	-	-	-	1	-	1

INFANT MORTALITY AND STILLBIRTHS - COMPARATIVE TABLE.

	1962	1961	1960	1957	1952
STILLBIRTH RATE (per 1000 total births)	Nil	Nil	22	65	Nil
NEO NATAL RATE (per 1000 live births)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	55
INFANT MORTALITY RATE (per 1000 live births)	20	Nil	45	23	55

During the past year there were no stillbirths in the district, nor any maternal deaths associated with pregnancy and childbirth. There was, however, one infant death attributed to prematurity, a condition which still carries a high mortality.



PREVALENCE OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE - 1962.

(Other than Tuberculosis)

<u>Notifiable Disease.</u>	Total Cases at all ages.	Total Notified Cases in Age Groups.										removed to Hospital.	Deaths.
		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-		
Paratyphoid Fever	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	8	-	-	-	-	2	6	-	-	-	-	1	-
Measles	11	-	-	2	2	1	5	1	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.  
YEARLY TOTALS.

Notifiable Diseases.	1962	1961	1960	1957	1952
Paratyphoid Fever	1	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	8	10	2	5	5
Measles	11	22	43	56	10
Whooping Cough	-	-	3	18	9
Polio-Paralytic	-	-	1	-	-
Polio-Non Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	3	6	6	-	6
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	2	1
Acute Pneumonia	3	-	3	9	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	1	2	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>35</b>



Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

There was once again a reduction in the number of cases of infectious disease notified, chiefly due to a lower incidence of Measles in the district.

One case of Paratyphoid Fever was notified. This was a mild case which quickly responded to treatment.

Cases Notified and Deaths from  
Tuberculosis during 1962.

<u>Ages.</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths.</u>			
	Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals ....	1		-		-	-	-	-



## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Lancashire County Council, under the National Health Service Act, is the responsible authority for the provision and maintenance of personal health services. These services e.g.

- Care of Mothers and Young Children.
- Mental Health Services.
- Home Help Services.
- Ambulance Services.
- Care of School Children.
- Care of the Aged.
- General Welfare Services.

are administered under the Divisional Health Service Scheme by Divisional Health Committee No. 14 through the Divisional Medical Officer, "Tylon", Middleton Road, Chadderton, (Tel: MAIN 6251).

Ante-natal clinics are held fortnightly at the new High Street Centre and child welfare clinics weekly. Minor ailment clinics were also held there, but school children requiring specialist opinion are referred to clinics in other parts of the division. Home helps are available to attend households where necessary in cases of confinement, illness, old age and infirmity. Over 70% of the demands on this service are for the care of the aged and infirm. A charge is made for home help services dependent on the means of the person helped.

Hospital facilities are provided and maintained through the Regional Hospital Board and Hospital Management Committee without regard to local authority boundaries.

The examination of pathological specimens and samples of milk, ice-cream, water and other food is undertaken, without charge to the authority, by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester, 10.

The Urban District Council is responsible for those matters likely to affect or be concerned with the maintenance of high standards of environmental health. These include:

- Inspection of Houses re fitness for human habitation.
- Control of infectious disease (Including food poisoning).
- Control and inspection of meat.
- Control of food and food preparing premises.
- Provision of suitable water supplies.
- Detection and prevention of nuisances.
- Prevention of atmospheric pollution.
- Control of rodent and insect infestations.
- Collection and disposal of refuse.
- Provision of sanitary accommodation and public conveniences.



Council Offices,  
Cross Street,  
Lees.

August, 1963

Report of the Public Health Inspector.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the Sanitary Administration of the District during the year 1962.

The slow rate of progress over the recent years in respect of the elimination of the Slum Clearance Programme has continued throughout the year, although the acquisition of land to accommodate some 35 housing units has indicated that further progress is now possible in dealing with this problem.

Details of other works carried out are given in the following pages under their appropriate headings.

I would like again to take the opportunity of expressing my appreciation for the help and co-operation given during the year by yourselves, the Medical Officer of Health and the Staff.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours sincerely,

J. W. Rustidge.

Public Health Inspector.



## Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

### Drainage and Sewerage.

The whole district is drained and sewered but the Authority possesses no sewage disposal works. Sewage is conveyed to sewers of the Oldham County Borough via three main junctions, the respective flows being measured by Lea recorders, and is treated by that authority at their disposal works in Slacks Valley, Chadderton.

### Public Cleansing.

The weekly collection of household refuse is maintained throughout the year; collection being direct from household bins to a motor vehicle and disposal by tipping. Tins are recovered for salvage whilst the refuse is being hand levelled at the tip face and some paper is removed for incineration on the tip top.

Dustbins are replaced by the Council, the cost being borne by the general rate fund. 74 dustbins were supplied during the year as replacements. The number of moveable dustbins in the district is some 1559.

### Rodent Control.

No full-time rodent operative is employed, all necessary works being carried out by members of the road maintenance staff who have attended Ministry courses of instruction in rodent destruction. The sewer system receives a twice yearly treatment when labour permits and complaints of rodent infestation are handled as circumstances dictate. 27 infestations were successfully treated throughout the year.

### Sanitary Accommodation.

All houses in the district are on the water carriage system although not all possess a separate fresh water closet. 44 waste water closets still remain and progress in their elimination is very slow. One was converted during the year under review.

Number of waste water closets end 1962.	44
Number of conversions during year.	1
Number of fresh water closets.	1472
Number of houses on water carriage system.	1428

### Smoke Abatement.

The authority co-operates in the joint scheme for the investigation of atmospheric pollution formed by 27 local authorities and has one lead peroxide gauge for the determination of sulphur pollution sited in the Cemetery grounds.

Smoke emissions from factory chimneys during the year did not call for any action other than verbal cautions, whilst the planned re-equipping of one of the largest cotton mills in the district will result in the removal of the old boiler plant.



### Water Supply.

The district is served by upland surface water from the Oldham County Borough supply. Filtration and sterilization by the chloramine process takes place at the source of the supply. 11 bacteriological samples taken in the district were reported as satisfactory.

### Sanitary Inspections.

During the year 733 visits were made to 463 premises, namely  
269 dwellinghouses.  
159 shops and business premises.  
29 factories.  
6 schools.

In the dwellinghouses 188 defects or nuisances were found and during the year 147 of these matters were remedied. It was found necessary to serve 2 formal notices to ensure that the necessary repairs were carried out, whilst 61 informal notices and personal visits obtained the desired results in the majority of cases.

12 houses were found to be verminous but each infestation responded to a lindane/DDT treatment and was satisfactorily cleared.

No legal action was called for during visits to the shops and the general conditions are satisfactory.

There are 5 schools in the district, one being a private school. Although each is drained and has a water supply, one school still possesses and has to make use of obsolete trough-type closets, although improvements are now planned. Three schools have unsatisfactory washing facilities and unsatisfactory drinking water facilities.

There are 29 factories among which 34 visits were made. 3 verbal notices under the act were issued and were found to be remedied on reinspection.

### Rodent Control Work

	Local Authority	Dwelling houses.	Other Premises	Agri-cultural.
Number of properties in the district.	11	1417	272	6
Number of properties inspected.	5	29	16	2
Number of properties found infested by:-				
Rats - Major	-	-	-	-
- Minor	1	11	4	-
Mice - Major	-	-	-	-
- Minor	-	10	1	-
Number of infested properties treated by local authority.	1	21	5	-



### Inspection and Supervision of Food.

The majority of the shops in the district sell foodstuffs of one type or another. Out of 90 shops there are 62 selling food for human consumption. The various trades are represented as under:-

General grocers.	28
Greengrocers.	2
Fishmongers.	1
Butchers.	6.
Fish Fryers.	5
Bakers/Confectioners.	5
Sugar Confectioners.	4
Inns, Clubs etc.,	<u>11</u>
	62

During the year it was found necessary to issue condemnation certificates in respect of the food listed below:-

### Fresh Frozen Food.

	lbs.	oz.		<u>Qty.</u>
Brussell Sprouts	8	1	Cornish Pasty	6
Peas	18	4	Sausage Rolls	6
Green Beans	3	3½	Beefburgers	8
Fish Fingers	3	11½	Doughnuts	4
Fresh Steaks		15	Sponge Cake	4
Fish Cakes		11	Choc. Eclair	1
Haddock Fillets	4	8	Corn on the Cob	14
Cod Fillets	5	6	Ice Cream Block	160
Plaice Fillets	7	8	Ice Lollies	146
Kipper Fillets	1	2		
Beef Sticks		6		
Gooseberries	1	4		
Puff Pastry		15		
Shortcrust	1	14		

The whole of the above food was voluntarily surrendered after the breakdown of a refrigerated shop cabinet.

There are 25 distributors of milk in the district, of whom 24 sell only "Sterilized Milk". Only designated milk is retailed, dealers' licences being issued by the Lancashire County Council.

There are no slaughter-houses registered in the district.

Sampling of foods is carried out by the Lancashire County Council. There were samples of foodstuffs obtained in the district, as listed below:-

Boric Lint	1
Vinegar	1
Bread	1
Lard	1
Olive Oil B.P.	1
Epsom Salts B.P.	1
Borax B.P.	1
Flour Confectionery	2

Twenty six samples of milk were obtained, (three of which were Channel Islands Milk).

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine.



## HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:

(i) By the local authority.	Nil
(ii) By other bodies or persons.	27

## Inspection of dwelling-houses.

Number inspected formally or informally for housing defects.	101
Total inspections made.	182
Number found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation.	71
Number made fit following informal action.	53
Number so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation at year end (estimated)	112

## Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

Number in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.	
By owners.	2
By local authority in default.	Nil

## Proceedings under Housing Acts.

Number which after service of formal notices were rendered fit.	
By owners.	Nil
By local authority in default.	Nil
Number demolished.	Nil
Number closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owner.	10
Parts of buildings closed.	Nil
Number of clearance areas represented.	Nil

## Proceedings under Housing Acts 1949/54.

	<u>Standard.</u>	<u>Improvement.</u>
Number of applications for grants made by private individuals.	20	Nil
Number of dwellinghouses affected.	20	Nil
Number of applications approved.	20	Nil
Any other action under the Acts.	Nil	Nil



Factories.

<u>Premises.</u> (1)	Number on Register. (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	14	15	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	15	19	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-

Defects

<u>Particulars</u> (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found.					Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)	
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred				
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)			
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Overcrowding (S.2) .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4).	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)							
(a) Insufficient .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	3	3	-	-	-	-	
(c) Not separate for sexes..	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total ....	3	3	-	-	-	-	

Outworkers.

Nature of Work. (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (2)	No. of prosecutions instances for failure to supply lists. (3)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises. (4)	Notices Served (5)	Prosecutions (6)
Wearing } Making apparel	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wearing } Cleaning apparel ) & Washing	-	-	-	-	-	-





